



# MASSACHUSETTS STATE POLICE

## Instructions to Witness before Viewing

1. You are going to be shown an individual.
2. This may or may not be the person who committed the crime, so you should not feel compelled to make an identification.
3. It is just as important to clear innocent people as it is to identify possible perpetrators.
4. Whether or not you identify someone, the police will continue to investigate.
5. After you are done, I will not be able to provide you with any feedback or comment on the results of the process.
6. Please do not discuss this identification procedure or the results with other witnesses in this case or with the media.
7. Think back to the time of the event, the place, view, lighting, frame of mind, etc. Take as much time as you need.
8. People may not appear exactly as they did at the time of the event, because features such as clothing and head/facial hair are subject to change.
9. As you look at this person, tell me if you recognize him/her. If you do, please tell me how you know the person, and in your own words, how sure you are of the identification.

***Do not*** tell witness that police have stopped someone who fits the description.

***Do not*** report to Witness whether s/he had selected the right person.

***Minimize*** the impact of visual cues like handcuffs, location of cruiser, or officers surrounding the suspect.